

Abstract 283

TITLE: Programs That Work: Research-based Programs in HIV Prevention for Youth

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ISSUE: Prevention specialists who work with adolescents have needs for effective interventions that can lower risk behavior.

SETTING: HIV prevention activities in schools and community-based youth programs.

PROJECT: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has identified programs with credible evidence of effectiveness in reducing HIV-related behaviors among adolescents as "Program that Work". The process includes setting standards for effectiveness, selecting programs that meet the standards, and disseminating those programs nationwide.

RESULTS: To date, 5 HIV prevention programs have been identified. A national network of trainers has been established that includes individuals from health departments, schools, and community-based organizations. Programs have been implemented in a variety of in and out-of school settings, targeting youth of diverse backgrounds and ethnicities.

LESSONS LEARNED: CDC's experience thus far has shown that while the prevention community is eager to learn of effective programs, dissemination and implementation of the programs is problematic due to limitations of funding and local requirements and restrictions. On the other hand the project has raised awareness about the need for research-based interventions and stimulated collaboration among schools, communities, and health departments.

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